Waco Trib Letter to the Editor Conflict Over Planned Parenthood

LETTER5

About birth control

On Oct. 14, Linda Eaton wrote a letter full of common misconceptions about birth control and sex education. Birth control fails. We are complex, biological, chemical beings — our bodies change as does our receptivity to birth control. Birth control is not one-size-fits-all. Pills or IUD? Implant or diaphragm? And condoms? They break; did you know they have expiration dates? The staff at Planned Parenthood can help women decide which method works best for them (yes, they are still open). They can also help with the financial costs of getting birth control. LARCs (long-acting reversible contraceptives) are expensive but more effective than cheaper options. Being forced to have a child because your birth control fails isn't a "bad choice."

And of course, men rape women — not a choice there at all.

Eaton also assumes that sex education is easy to get. I would remind her that we had a nationally acclaimed, age-appropriate and medically accurate program called Nobody's Fool provided by Planned Parenthood to our community for over 20 years. The curriculum was available to parents before the classes and was a valuable resource for both parents and teachers. The Waco pro-life group protested every year at the event. Each year they became more and more aggressive and threatening as they accosted children and their parents as they entered the workshop. In the end it became too dangerous to keep the event public. Planned Parenthood still offers the education to groups, as requested.

Cheryl Foster, Waco

Our side

Our position



Waco Tribune-Herald, Nov. 16, 2021 We were harassed

I take exception to Doel Garcia's Nov. 10 letter, titled "No charges filed," as it's erroneous on several things. I personally escorted children down Washington Avenue to the Waco Convention Center where they would attend Nobody's Fool. Without exception, a protestor would confront the child and me, waving pamphlets and posters of aborted fetuses and aggressively asking how we could support Planned Parenthood.

On one occasion a protestor took a picture of the child and me and told me he would post it on social media. Believe me, the protestor's actions were frightening to the child and angered me. The aggressive actions of all of the protestors were in my opinion on the edge of violating our right to walk on a public sidewalk.

Also, my wife, a career teacher, taught classes at Nobody's Fool. She told me that the young girls were very curious about sex, hygiene and other topics. In her opinion the curriculum was ageappropriate and that all materials used were given to parents to review before enrolling their child.

I understand people not supporting Planned Parenthood for their own reasons but I don't support their lies. Planned Parenthood doesn't exploit women with birth control. Parents reviewed the materials used in Nobody's Fool in advance. The aggression toward escorts, parents and children while walking to the event was a primary reason to discontinue the program.

David L. McLatcher, Waco

No charges filed

On Oct. 28, Cheryl Foster wrote a letter about birth control. In her letter, she stated that Planned Parenthood is still open to help women with birth control. She should have said to exploit women for profit.

Next she heralds Planned Parenthood's former sex education program, called Nobody's Fool, which used a pornographic book to indoctrinate children as young as fifth grade to become sexually active. She said the reason No-body's Fool was discontinued was because a pro-life group protesting the event accosted children and parents made it too dangerous to be there.

That is an outright lie. If it was so dangerous why weren't the police called, and why weren't there any charges filed?

Anyone that was there saw pastors and concerned citizens talking to parents, not children, to warn them of the harmful content being presented to their kids.

The truth is parents were made aware of what their children were being exposed to. As a result the number of participants dwindled, and the workshop was discontinued.

Doel Garcia, Morgan

Waco Tribune-Herald, Nov. 17, 2021 Save the babies

Regarding Cheryl Foster's letter to the editor of Oct. 28, I walk around Planned Parenthood all the time and I have not seen anyone talking to children. We only talk to adults. We hand out flyers to those that will take them. We never tell lies. We are not aggressive and threatening. We want to save the babies, as they are created by God, and he directs us to pray to save the babies. They are a gift from God.

We are kind people from all walks of life, and we just want to stop Planned Parenthood from taking the babies from their mothers. Or at the very least carry them to full term and give them up for adoption so that those of us that cannot have our own can raise their babies to be God-fearing people. So, why did you let this letter even be published? Abortion is not a form of birth control, it is murder.

Susan Stewart, Waco